(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (a) & (b) above.

Loss to IT industry

†767. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Information Technology industry suffered heavy economic loss during the first nine months of the current year due to devaluation of Indian rupee vis-a-vis US dollar; and

(b) if so, the amount of such loss and the value of import by the industry during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) As per the import figures available from DGCI&S, Kolkata, for the period April-October, 2001, import of Electronic Hardware is valued at Rs. 10, 038 crores, as compared to Rs. 9,275 crores during the same period in the previous year. Thus there is an increase by 8.23%, which is partly due to devaluation and partly because of increase in demand for electronic hardware goods.

Data relating to India's total import of computer software and services is not available from any authentic source. However, import of computer software in physical form as per data published by DGCI&S for the period April-October, 2001 is Rs. 3934 crores as compared to Rs. 4303 crores for the period April-October, 2000.

As far as export revenues are concerned, devaluation of Indian Rupee vis-a-vis US dollar only benefits the exporters in Rupee terms.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.